5 December 1985 MJN 8522

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT: Monthly Report--Jordan Bureau--November 1985

I. GENERAL

Yasir 'Arafat's "Cairo Declaration" issued on 7 November, wherein he forswore PLO operations against targets outside the occupied territories, was greeted with cautious sighs of relief at the embassy. The declaration hopefully marked the end of the latest round of tit-for-tat escalation of tension in the region and augured a new phase in the "peace process."

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

- 1. Jordanian-Syrian rapprochement continued as Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i conferred for 7 hours in Damascus with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad on 12 November. According to the joint statement on the talks carried by SANA and PETRA-JNA, the two sides rejected "partial and separate solutions," as well as direct negotiations with Israel. They also agreed to ease trade restrictions, revive the joint higher committee and support joint ventures.
- 2. The bureau provided same-day textual processing of Finance Minister Hanna 'Awdah's 4 December budget speech at the request of the embassy Economic section.
- 3. Effective 5 December, Tel Aviv Bureau is assuming coverage of the five West Bank papers previously covered by Jordan Bureau.

B. <u>Lateral Services</u>

- 1. As a result of a periodic review of its lateral service requirements, the embassy dropped requirements for four lateral services, including WLD-ALERT 2, which had netted them beaucoup items on the Liberian coup and the Colombian mudslide.
- 2. Several other bureaus have been very cooperative with the bureau's requests to reduce the volume of drop copies to the bureau, all in the name of reducing the load on our primary circuit and reducing our paper files to more operationally manageable proportions.

JORDAN BUREAU PROBUCTION REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 1985

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